

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 30-55 are pending in the application.

Claim 1-31 have been cancelled.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C.

§ 121:

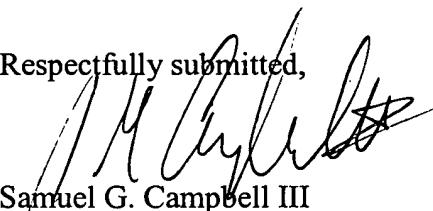
Group I. Claims 1-16, 30 and 31, drawn to the Multiple levels of multiplexing to form a multiplex hierarchy, classified in class 370, subclass 541.

Group II. Claims 32-55, drawn to the time division multiplexing (TDM), classified in class 370, subclass 321.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, the applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute claims 32-55, drawn to the time division multiplexing (TDM), classified in class 370, subclass 321.

Please cancel claims 1-31 without prejudice to the subject matter disclosed therein.

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 27, 2005. | |
| 7/27/05 Signature | 7/27/05 Date of Signature |
| Attorney for Applicants | |

Respectfully submitted,

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